

Message Text

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21

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 EB-04 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 CIEP-01

/062 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB - FTATU:MFG

APPROVED BY EA/TB - GBROBERTS

EA/LC - JBROH-KAHN

EA/PRCM - JYTAYLOR

EA/VN - RGRICHMOND

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R 310132Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TH, LA, CH, VN

SUBJECT: PRESUMED RTG PROHIBITION OF TRANSIT OF
PRC MANUFACTURED GOODS

1. WE HAVE NOTED A TRANSLATION IN THE OCT 3 VIENTIANE
LE PROGRES OF AN ARTICLE FROM THE VERNACULAR XAT LAO WHICH
REPORTS LAO CONCERN THAT RTG REVOLUTIONARY PARTY DECREE 53
WOULD PROHIBIT TRANSIT THROUGH THAILAND OF PRC MANUFAC-
TURED GOODS. THE ARTICLE ANTICIPATES THAT THE MATTER WILL
BE DISCUSSED DURING THE FORTHCOMING MEETING IN VIENTIANE
OF THE MIXED RLG-RTG COMMISSION.

2. SHOULD THE RLG BEGIN SUBSTANTIAL IMPORTATIONS FROM
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CHINA INCLUDING AID GOODS, THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE TRANSIT

ROUTE, DISCOUNTING AIR TRANSPORT, WOULD BE THROUGH THE DRV.

3. WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE IN USG INTERESTS FOR THE
RLG TO BECOME DEPENDENT UPON DRV TRANSIT ROUTES.

4. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF YOU COULD OBTAIN SOME DEFINITIVE
READING ON THE RTG POSITION WHILE SUBTLY POINTING OUT TO THE THAI
THE DISADVANTAGES WHICH WOULD OBTAIN IF THE LAO WERE FORCED
GO THE DRV ROUTE FOR GOODS WHICH COULD BE IMPORTANT TO THE
LAO ECONOMY. INGERSOLL

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NNN

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